

CLAIMS

Claims 1-26 (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) A method for treating milk contained in a container having an inner wall, comprising the steps of:

setting the container in motion such that a milk film forms on said inner wall, and
short-term heating the milk at least whilst the container is in motion.

28. (Previously Presented) A method of Claim 27, wherein the milk is breast milk.

29. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 27, wherein the milk is heated above at least about 65° C for more than about 20 seconds.

30. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 27, wherein the container is set in rotation, at least during the heating, with a speed of rotation greater than about 150 rpm.

31. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 30, wherein the speed of rotation is greater than about 300 rpm.

32. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 27, wherein the milk is exposed for heating to a first heat source which is set at a first temperature, for a first period of time, then to a second heat source which is at a second temperature, for a second period of time, and finally for cooling to a third heat source which is set at a third temperature, for a third period of time.

33. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 32, wherein at least one for the first and third heat source comprises a waterbath in which the container in motion is immersed.

34. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 32, wherein at least one of the first and second heat sources is a hot air source and the container in motion is immersed in an air stream of the air source.

35. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 34, wherein the air stream is passed into a chamber with an opening for immersion of the container in motion.

36. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 32, wherein the second heat source is ambient air.

37. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 32, wherein the first temperature is greater than 80°C.

38. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 37, wherein the first temperature is about 85-90° C.

39. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 32, wherein the third temperature is below 10° C.

40. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 39, where in the third temperature is about 2-4° C.

41. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 32, wherein the first period of time is more than 15 seconds.

42. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 41, wherein the first period of time is about 20-25 seconds.

43. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 32, wherein the second period of time is less than 15 seconds

44. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 43, wherein the second period of time is about 5-10 seconds.

45. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 32, wherein the third period of time is more than 10 seconds.

46. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 45, wherein the third period of time is about 20 seconds.

47. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 27, wherein the container is a glass flask.

48. (Previously Presented) A method as in Claim 27, wherein the container has a volume which is at least about ten times larger than the volume of the milk.

49. (Previously Presented) A method of Claim 27, comprising the further step of monitoring the temperature of the milk.

50. (Withdrawn) A method for treating milk contained in a container having an inner wall, comprising the steps of:

setting the container in motion such that a milk film forms on said inner wall,
heating the milk to a temperature of about 72° C for not more than 5 seconds, and
cooling the milk to a temperature of about 30° C.

51. (Withdrawn) A method for treating breast milk contained in a container having an inner wall, comprising the steps of:

setting the container in motion such that a milk film forms on said inner wall, and

exposing the container to a first heat source which is set at a first temperature of greater than 80° C, for a first period of time of more than 15 seconds, and

exposing the container to a second heat source of a second temperature that is below 10°C, for a second period of time of more than 10 seconds.

52. (Withdrawn) A method as in Claim 51, wherein after being exposed to said first heat source and before being exposed to said second heat source the container is exposed to ambient air for a third period of time that is less than 15 seconds.

53. (Previously Presented) A device for treating milk contained in a container, comprising at least one heat source for heating the milk, and a device for setting the container in motion and exposing the container in motion to the heat source for a defined period of time.

54. (Previously Presented) A device as in Claim 53, wherein the milk is breast milk.

55. (Previously Presented) A device as in Claim 53, comprising a further heat source for cooling the milk.

56. (Previously Presented) A device as in Claim 55, wherein at least one of the first and further heat sources comprises a waterbath in which the container in motion is immersed by the device.

57. (Previously Presented) A device as in Claim 53, wherein the device sets the container in rotation.

58. (Previously Presented) A device as in Claim 56, wherein the container is rotating when being immersed in the waterbath.

59. (Previously Presented) A device as in Claim 55, wherein at least one of the first and further heat sources is an airbath into whose air stream the container in motion is immersed by the device.

60. (Previously Presented) A device as in Claim 59, wherein the container immersed into the airbath is rotated by the device.

61. (Previously Presented) A device as in Claim 59, wherein the airbath comprises a chamber having an opening for receiving the container, the air stream being passed into the chamber.

62. (Previously Presented) A device as in Claim 53, further comprising a temperature probe for monitoring the temperature of the milk.

63. (Previously Presented) A device as in Claim 53, further comprising a receptacle for the container, said receptacle arranged for horizontal and vertical movement and having a rotary drive for said container.

64. (Previously Presented) A device as in Claim 63, wherein the receptacle comprises a locking securement means for the container.

65. (Previously Presented) A device as in Claim 62, wherein the temperature probe is fastened non-corotatingly to a receptacle for the container.

66. (Previously Presented) A device as in Claim 65, wherein the temperature probe is fastened resiliently to the receptacle.

67. (Previously Presented) A device for treating breast milk contained in a container, comprising a first heat source for heating the container, and a second heat source for cooling the container, and a device for setting the container in motion and exposing the container to the first and second heat source, respectively.

68. (Previously Presented) A device as in Claim 67, wherein the device sets the container in rotation prior to exposing it to the first or second heat sources.

69. (New) A method as in Claim 27, wherein the milk is heated to a temperature of about 72°C for not more than 5 seconds, and subsequent the milk is cooled to a temperature of about 30°C.

70. (New) A method of Claim 27, wherein the container is exposed to a first heat source which is set at a first temperature of greater than 80°C, for a first period of time of more than 15 seconds, and the container is exposed to a second heat source of a second temperature that is below 10°C, for a second period of time of more than 10 seconds.

71. (New) A method of Claim 70, wherein after being exposed to said first heat source and before being exposed to said second heat source and container is exposed to ambient air for a third period of time that is less than 15 seconds.